RECEIVED MINISTRY OF HEALTH
C.R.
1926
11
MED. LIBRARY
1221

HOLLINGWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

By
REGINALD POMFRET WYLDE.

GLOSSOP:
Glossop Printers Limited, Howard Street. Tel. 67.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29433186

HOLLINGWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

By
REGINALD POMFRET WYLDE.

GLOSSOP:
Glossop Printers Limited, Howard Street. Tel. 67.

Hollingworth Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

To the Chairman and Gentlemen of the Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to place before you my thirteenth Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health, and in addition to which I give a review of the local conditions at the present time, together with figures and tables covering vital statistics for the year 1925. In the forming of my observations under their several headings, I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector for much useful information. I trust you will find this report a complete record, and consistent with previous statistics.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Hollingworth, situated on the eastern border of Cheshire, consists of a township occupying a position at the base of a very hilly county district The latter extends over the northern slope of the Longdendale Valley, and to the south faces North Derbyshire—the summit of the Peak being visible. Towards the north-east are situated the moors of South Yorkshire, and a few miles to the westward, the Lancashire border is met. The Valley of Longdendale, wending its way between lofty hills, covers an extensive area, and

through it passes the main road between Manchester and Sheffield. The main street of Hollingworth is also part of this main road. Situated on the Manchester side of the township is Mottram, and on the Sheffield side Tintwistle. The mean altitude of the main street of Hollingworth is 500 feet above sea level, and the district to the northern side rises to a maximum of 1,300 feet. The river Etherow winds through the Valley, and here forms the boundary between Cheshire and Derbyshire.

The subsoil in the immediate neighbourhood is mostly clay leading to sandstone rock, but at a higher altitude than the main street the subsoil almost ceases, and the soil is found to be directly deposited on rock. This leads to poor vegetation, which is also partly caused by the severe east winds which frequently drive through the Valley. The climate of the district is very bracing.

Cotton workers, engaged both in spinning and weaving, form the majority of the population, and within the rateable area are three large cotton mills and one large bleaching works. Beyond these there is no other industry of any importance which would tend to affect the Public Health.

Hollingworth is included in the No. 8 District of the Ashton-under-Lyne Union, the relieving officer making weekly visits for the purpose of affording necessary relief under the Poor Law.

There is a well-equipped Hospital at Ashton where patients from Hollingworth are kindly admitted, and there is also an excellent Union hospital at the same place. There is no public institution within the district receiving sick or infirm persons.

Population.

The figures shown in the statements received from the Registrar-General gives the population of Hollingworth as 2,435, as compared with the 1911 Census figures of 2,580.

Population 1926....	2,435
Population 1925	2,454
Population 1924...	2,480
Population 1923....	2,493
Population, Census 1922	2,499
Population, estimated 1921	2,465
Population, Census 1911	2,580
Area of district in acres	2,086
Number of Inhabited Houses	634
Average number of Persons per House	4·07
Nett Birth-rate for 1,000 living	14·7
Nett Death-rate for 1,000 living	16·8
Nett Deaths under 1 year of age	4
Nett Death-rate under 1 year per 1,000 nett births	112
Rateable Value	£17,539
Sums represented by a penny rate	£73

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The following are in force :—

1. Infectious Diseases Prevention Act.
2. Public Health Act.

BYE-LAWS.

Bye-Laws in force relate to the following :—

1. New Streets and Buildings.
2. Common Lodging Houses.
3. Slaughterhouses.
4. Houses Let in Lodgings.
5. Cleansing and Scavenging.
6. Offensive Trades.
7. Nuisances.

No new Bye-Law was adopted during 1925.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

36 Births were registered during 1925, which is still much below the average.

Of the 36 births 16 were males and 20 females. This gives an annual birth-rate of 14·7.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered in the district during 1925 was 41, of which 27 were males and 14 females This gives a death-rate of 16·8.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Hearth Disease	5
Tuberculosis	2
Cancer	3
Influenza	2
Bronchitis	4
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	4
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	2

Notice was received of 1 transferable death of residents not registered in the district.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 4 deaths of infants under one year of age belonging to the district—2 males and 2 females, all legitimate. I am glad to say this is a slight improvement on previous years.

ILLEGITIMACY.

There were no illegitimate births registered during 1925.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

This is a constant public service. The water is obtained from a spring rising high up the Arnfield Clough. Analysis has repeatedly shown the water to be of exceptional purity. It is slightly acid, and no doubt must to some degree possess pulbo-solvent properties. The short service pipes in use are well tinned, and no trace of lead has ever been detected in this water. In parts not supplied with this public service I know of no instance nor isolated dwelling not in possession of a proper private supply of pure drinking water.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

The district is well equipped with a good main sewer, which has an ample fall and flush. House drains and sewers are now nearly all connected with the main sewer. Two cesspools are still in use. These latter are regularly inspected and emptied. The farmsteads on the hillsides have their own proper systems of sewers. Their drains mostly empty into cesspools, well removed from the buildings. The farmers themselves periodically cleanse these receptacles and spread the contents as manure on the land.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

A well-arranged water-carriage system conveys the sewage to disposal works. These latter are situated down by the river a mile away from all dwelling-houses.

The treatment at the outfall works is by tanks, filters, and land. No complaint has ever been lodged in respect of these disposal works.

The Inspectors of the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee took samples of the effluent last year. The result of their analysis were favourable. Good effluents were reported in every case except one.

SCAVENGING.

The scavenging of all premises is carried out by the Council, and also by private owners.

The old property is in most cases served by midden privies, which are being gradually abolished. Dry Ash-pits, Pail Closets, and Dust Bins are also found.

The approximate numbers are :—

Midden Privies	193
Dry Ashpits	166
Pail Closets	135
Dust Bins	58
Waste Water Closets	54
Town Water Closets	81
Baths	58

CONVERSIONS AND ADDITIONS TO SANITARY CONVENIENCES DURING THE YEAR.

Conversions and additions to Sanitary Conveniences during the year :—

From Privy and Fresh Water Closets.	1
Additions to Fresh Water Closets ...	2
Additions to Baths	2

CLEANSING OF STREETS.

The condition of the main street has been satisfactory during the year, and I have nothing of importance to remark under this head.

The method of Tar-spreading for the prevention of the dust nuisance was applied to all macadam main roads during the year.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

The district has no lodging-house, nor any house let in lodgings. There is no cellar dwelling and no offensive trade.

SCHOOLS.

The district possesses a modern and commodious Elementary School, the sanitary arrangements and conditions of which are satisfactory. All cases of infectious diseases are regularly reported. The Medical Officer appointed by the County Council, Chester, inspects the school at regular intervals.

FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

The milk supply to this district is almost entirely produced on farms within the district, and during 1925 there were no complaints as to either quantity or quality.

At the close of 1924 the Register showed 18 Dairies and 2 Milkshops, where milk in bottles are sold.

I have no complaints to mention against any of these, and no faults have been reported to me.

The regulations applying to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops are enforced. In no instance has tuberculous milk been detected.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases Generally.

The following were reported :—

Scarlet Fever 28

One case was removed to the Hyde Fever Hospital, which unfortunately proved fatal. The remainder were mild.

There was an epidemic of Whooping Cough, Measles and Gastric Influenza during the year, but in spite of so many children being away from School it was not necessary to close the School.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Two cases were reported—1 Pulmonary, 1 Non-Pulmonary.

		Number of Cases Notified	
Tuberculosis.	At all Ages.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.
Pulmonary	....	1 male	—
Non-Pulmonary		—	1 male

The County Tuberculosis Officer gives every possible help. Sputum is examined and reported on immediately.

Suspected cases are sent down to County Clinic at Hyde.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The district is furnished with a very capable Maternity Nurse appointed by the County Council. A Child Welfare Centre has been established now for over twelve months in Hollingworth. This Centre is very well attended by babies from the adjacent villages, and everybody connected with it seem very enthusiastic.

Children are regularly inspected in their homes and schools by a Nurse appointed by the County Council for that purpose.

We also possess a District Nurse, who attends to the sick of your District under Doctors' instructions. Her work has been invaluable. This nurse is mainly supported by the inhabitants of Hollingworth and Tintwistle.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Staff.

The duty of Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Nuisances is held by one man, and there is no other staff for sanitary administration.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There is an Isolation Hospital for Smallpox situated on Mottram Moor, the ownership being vested in the three Councils of Mottram, Hollingworth, and Tintwistle.

Midwives' Act, 1918.

This Act is now administered by the County Authorities.

Chemical and Bacteriological Work.

Specimen for Chemical and Bacteriological examinations are sent to the Infirmary Laboratory at Chester, and also to Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

HOUSING.

No new houses have been built during the year.

There are no unhealthy areas.

There are 22 back-to-back houses, which are well built and kept in a fair state of repair, but are distinctly undesirable.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. POMFRET WYLDE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Nuisance Inspector's Report.

Hollingworth,
June 28th, 1926.

To the Medical Officer of Health,
(Dr. R. P. Wylde).

Sir,

I have pleasure in handing you my Annual Report herewith, for the Year ending 1925.

No plans have been passed during the year for house building.

Number of Privies with fixed receptables approximately	193
Dry Ashpits	166
Dust Bins	58
Waste Water Closets...	54
Pail Closets	135
Fresh Water Closets	81
Baths	58

Conversions from Privies to Fresh Water Closets	1
Additions to Fresh Water Closets	2
Additions to Baths	2

There are 28 Workshops including Confectioners where pastry is made.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Urban District.

There are 3 registered Slaughter Houses. Inspections of these have been made in company of the Medical Officer. All the premises appear to have been kept clean and well limewashed.

There are 18 Dairies and 2 Milkshops where milk is sold in bottles. The farmers dispose of their milk and other produce in the surrounding district. Visits have been made to these Dairies and they appear to be kept clean.

Seven notices have been sent to abate nuisances caused by insanitary Closets, Ashpits, etc. All the nuisances have been abated.

On the instructions of the Medical Officer all premises where an infectious disease has occurred have been fumigated and disinfectants have been supplied gratis.

The disposal of Sewage has been carried out at the Outfall Works by precipitation and filtration. The solid matter has been removed by the local farmers.

The Inspectors of the Mersey and Irwell Rivers Polution Committee have visited the Outfall Works and taken samples of the effluent. All were classed as good with the exception of one, which was unsatisfactory.

There are 6 Factories in the Urban District, viz. : 3 Cotton Mills, 1 Bleaching Works, 1 Engraving Works, and Gas Works. Several visits have been made to these Factories in company with the Medical Officer.

The means of escape from fire for the workpeople have been examined and appear to be satisfactory.

The scavenging of the main and other roads for which the Council are responsible has been carried out during the year.

The main Macadam roads have been tar sprayed during the year.

There are 22 back-to-back Houses in the Urban District. These always appear to be kept in a clean condition.

The Public Baths have had an improved attendance during the year.

WILLIAM PITT,
Inspector of Nuisances.

APPENDIX.

Tabular Statement of Inspector of Nuisances for the Year Ending December 31st, 1925.

Number and Nature of Inspections made.	No.	No. of Notices served.		Result of Service of Notices.			
		Statutory	Informal	Notices complied with.	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions. Instituted	Prosecutions. Pend'g.
1 Dwelling Houses (General Inspections)...	1	...	..	...	...	...	...
2 Cellar Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
3 Back-to-Back Houses	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c.	...	...	...	...	..	...	..
5 Courts, Yards, Passages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets, and Ash Bins ...	40	...	3	3	...	...	...
7 Cesspools	1	...	1	1	...	...	...
8 House Drainage	15	...	3	3	...	...	...
9 Ditches, Watercourses, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Offensive Accumulations	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
11 The Keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91 (3))	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 Offensive Trades	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
13 (a) Slaughterhouses (Public)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ (Private)	40	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Other Places where Food is produced or sold ..	51	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 Piggeries...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 (a) Dairies	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Cowsheds	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Milkshops	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
16 (a) Factories	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Workshops	38	...	...	...	...	...	..
(c) Workplaces	...	...	...	...	..	...	..
(d) Outworkers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17 Bakehouses (Overground)	3	...	...	...	...	...	..
„ (Underground)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18 Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19 Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Smoke Observations	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
21 Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22 Infectious Disease (Inquiries and Re-visits)	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
23 Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Totals	251	...	7	7	...	...	...

(Signed) WILLIAM PITT, Inspector of Nuisances.

Cheshire County Council.

Tabular Summary of Sanitary Work during 1925.

Name of District: HOLLINGWORTH.

WATER SUPPLY.

1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1925. If so, please append brief note	None.
2. Number of Samples analysed during 1925—chemically	None.
3. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper supply of water?	None.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1925	None.
2. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper system of sewers? ..	Spout Green and Roe Cross.
3. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1925 as to the disposal works?	None.
4. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1925?...	None.

HOUSING.

1. Number of new houses built during 1925?	None.
2. Number of dwelling-houses inspected under s. 17 Act of 1909 ..	15
3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation	None.
4. Number of representations made to Local Authority	None.
5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority	None.
6. Number of houses where defects remedied without closing orders being made	None.
7. Number of houses where defects remedied after closing orders made	None.
8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses within limits of rent in s. 14 of Act of 1909	None.
9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1925	None.
10. Number of such houses closed after notice	None.
11. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, etc...	None.
12. Approximate number of back-to-back houses in district	22
13. Approximate number of cellar dwellings in district	None.
14. What number of dwelling-houses for the working classes has your Council decided are required under the recent Housing Act?..	None.

TOWN PLANNING.

Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward during 1925 for your District or any part thereof?—Yes, the Manchester scheme has been discussed, and plans are still being prepared.

(Signed) WILLIAM PITT,

Date, June 28th, 1926.